REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

After the foregoing Amendment, Claims 1-7, 9-19, 21-24, 28 and 32 are pending in this application. Claims 1, 9, 13, 21, and 28 are amended; Claims 20, 25-27 and 29-31 are cancelled without prejudice. No new matter has been introduced into the application by these amendments.

Claims 1,2, 6, 7, 9-13, 18-29 and 31-32 were finally rejected as anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,838,927 (Gillon); claims 3-5, 15-17 and 30 were finally rejected as obvious over Gillon in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,555,377 (Christensen). These prior art rejections are respectfully traversed.

The independent claims 1, 13, 25 and 28 have been amended to clarify that the current invention optimizes compression processing via a method that minimizes processing overhead when a given PDU is associated with a previous PDU by tracking the previously filtered PDUs. Claim 1, for example, requires:

> filtering protocol-specific header and control information of a protocol data unit (PDU) to determine compressibility of the contents of said protocol data unit including determining if a given protocol data unit is associated with a previously filtered protocol data unit by tracking previously filtered protocol data units and information regarding the compression applied to previously filtered protocol data units;
>
> based on the result of said filtering, selecting the state of data link compression for said protocol data unit to optimize compression efficiency such that if the given protocol data unit is associated with a previously filtered protocol data unit, the data link compression that was applied to the previously filtered protocol data unit is selected;

In a preferred embodiment, when a first PDU of a particular communication is processed for compression, an entry is made in a table that indicates the state of compression utilized for that identified PDU. When a subsequent PDU is presented for processing that is associated with the previously processed first PDU, the same state of compression is used on this second PDU. No additional processing is required, such as a type lookup or file extension lookup, which may or may not be available. See par. [0008] and [0043] of the published application.

The Gillon apparatus **always** performs a data type lookup whether or not an associated PDU has previously been processed.

Regarding tracking, as previously presented in claim 20, Gillon col. 5, lines 48-57 is cited by the Examiner. That passage states:

> Data packet 400 is examined prior to compression, and header 402 is used to determine whether data 404 can be compressed. According to one embodiment of the present invention, data 404 is HTML data, as indicated by content type header "text/HTML." When the compression unit detects data packet 400 with a content header that indicates that data 404 is compressible, data 404 is immediately attached to a compression stream that transmits the compressed data. Note that other predetermined functions may be performed on data packet 400 prior to compression. These predetermined functions include counting the bytes in the data stream and printing the bytes in the data stream.

Neither this passage nor any other in Gillon discloses or suggests tracking information of previously filtered PDUs.

In Gillon, there is no teaching or suggestion of tracking of prior data packets as defined by claim 1. Similarly, the prior art does not teach or suggest the claimed

selection of "the data link compression that was applied to the previously filtered protocol data unit," since the prior art does not teach tracking the type of data link compression selected for previously filtered protocol data units. Even if the header information indicates that a PDU is one of an associated series of PDUs, this alone does not enable Gillon to select "the data link compression that was applied to the previously filtered protocol data unit."

Claims 18, 25, 28, 29 and 32 include the additional limitation that the filtering and compression selection are performed based on the type of data as determined by the header information as the alternative when there is no determination of an association with a prior PDU. Compression selection performed based on the type of data as determined by header information or other information about the data packet itself is the only type of determination and selection done by Gillon. There is no teaching or suggestion of filtering and compression selection based on what occurred to a previously filtered PDU as defined in each of the pending claims.

Christensen adds nothing to the teachings of Gillon to remedy the deficiencies of Gillon noted above.

If the Examiner believes that any additional minor formal matters need to be addressed in order to place this application in condition for allowance, or that a telephone interview will help to materially advance the prosecution of this

application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone at the Examiner's convenience.

In view of the foregoing amendment and remarks, Applicants respectfully submit that the present application, including claims 1-7 and 9-32, is in condition for allowance and a notice to that effect is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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